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ABSTRACT

This reference circular lists organizations that provide a variety of direct services to persons who are blind and visually impaired, including advocacy and advisory services, information and consultation, counseling and employment programs, assistive devices, and publications in special format. Many of the organizations offer guidance to families of persons with visual impairments and training for professionals. In addition, many publish journals, monographs, catalogs, and pamphlets; the major publications are specified. The first section lists national organizations alphabetically with an annotation that describes the services provided, and the second section lists international organizations. The third section includes publications that list the names of organizations that serve persons who are blind or visually impaired in the United States and in other countries, organizations that have tactile map collections, and producers and distributors of braille and large-print reading materials and assistive devices for reading. The last section lists state-level agencies that administer public programs providing rehabilitation services and special education. (Author)

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Blindness and Visual Impairments: Information and Advocacy Organizations

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

The Library of Congress

Washington, DC 20542

Date January 1996

No. 96-01

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Introduction

The organizations listed in this reference circular provide a variety of direct services to persons who are blind and visually impaired, including advocacy and advisory services, information and consultation, counseling and employment programs, assistive devices, and publications in special format. Many of the organizations also offer guidance to families of persons with visual impairments and training for professionals. Many publish journals, monographs, catalogs, and pamphlets. The major publications are specified.

The first section lists national organizations alphabetically with an annotation that describes the services provided, and the second section lists international organizations.

The third section includes publications that list the names of organizations that serve persons who are blind or visually impaired in the United States and in other countries, organizations that have tactile map collections, and producers and distributors of braille and large-print reading materials and assistive devices for reading.

The last section lists state-level agencies that administer public programs providing rehabilitation services and special education.

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National Organizations

American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults
18440 Oxnard Street
Tarzana, CA 91356
(818) 343-2022

Produces and distributes Twin Vision (print-braille) books free of charge throughout the United States; a free braille weekly news magazine, *Hot Line to Deaf-Blind,* for individuals who are deaf-blind; and free braille calendars. Lends print-braille and braille books through the Kenneth Jernigan Library for Blind Children.

American Council of the Blind
1155 Fifteenth Street NW, Suite 720
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 467-5081
800-424-8666 legislative news 6 p.m. to midnight Eastern time Monday through Friday
(202) 467-5085 fax
(202) 331-1058 electronic bulletin-board service
http://www.acb.org Internet

Principal publication: *Braille Forum*, monthly

Serves as an informational clearinghouse on blindness and provides advisory service on federal legislation. Acts as an advocate for civil rights, educational opportunities, vocational training, social security benefits, and health and social services for persons who are blind or visually impaired. Special-interest affiliated organizations include: American Blind Lawyers Association, Braille Revival League, Council of Citizens with Low Vision International (see separate entry), Council of Families with Visual Impairment, Friends-in-Art, Guide Dog Users, Library Users of America, National Alliance of Blind Students, National Association of Blind Teachers, Visually Impaired Data Processors International, and Visually Impaired Veterans of America.

American Diabetes Association
National Center
1660 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 549-1500
800-232-3472
(703) 836-2464 fax

Seeks to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of people with diabetes. Conducts a comprehensive program of public, patient, and professional education. Publishes a variety of pamphlets and a monthly periodical, *Diabetes Forecast*, for persons with diabetes and their families. Also publishes research journals for physicians who specialize in diabetes and for general practitioners.

American Foundation for the Blind
Eleven Penn Plaza, Suite 300
New York, NY 10001
(212) 502-7600
800-232-5463
(212) 502-7777 fax
afbinfo@afb.org e-mail
gopher://gopher.afb.org:5005 Internet

Principal publications: *AFB News*, 2/year
Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness, bimonthly

Develops and provides programs and services for persons who are blind or visually impaired in the areas of public education, social and technological research, consultation and referrals, and governmental relations. Maintains a library on nonmedical aspects of visual impairment. Sells publications in print, on cassette, and in braille. AFB's National Technology Center is a centralized resource on adaptive technology. The AFB legislative information network presents details on legislation and regulations of concern to blind and visually impaired persons. The Careers and Technology Information Bank is a national data and networking resource on the competitive employment of persons who are blind or visually impaired.

American Printing House for the Blind
1839 Frankfort Avenue
P.O. Box 6085
Louisville, KY 40206-0085
(502) 895-2405
800-223-1839
(502) 895-1509 fax

Principal publication: *APH Slate*, 2/year

Designated and funded by an 1879 act of Congress as the official source of educational texts (primary through secondary level) for students who are visually impaired in the United States and its possessions. Maintains the Central Catalog, which is a listing of textbooks available in large print, braille, and recorded format that are produced by APH, by volunteers, and by commercial companies. Engages in educational and technical research in these three formats and manufactures and sells assistive devices. Also produces recreational and religious literature in special format.

Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired
206 North Washington Street, Suite 320
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 548-1884
(703) 683-2926 fax

Principal publications: *AER Report*, bimonthly
Job Exchange, monthly
RE:view, quarterly

Formed in January 1984 with the consolidation of the Association for Education of the Visually Handicapped and the American Association of Workers for the Blind. Dedicated to the advancement of education, guidance, and vocational rehabilitation of children and adults who are blind or visually impaired. Maintains job exchange services and a speakers' bureau. Offers continuing-education seminars.

Association for Macular Diseases, Inc.
210 East 64th Street
New York, NY 10021
(212) 605-3719
(212) 605-3795 fax

Principal publication: *Eyes Only*, quarterly

Acts as a national support group for individuals and their families who are adjusting to changes related to macular diseases.

Better Vision Institute
1800 North Kent Street, Suite 904
Rosslyn, VA 22209
(703) 243-1508
800-424-8422

Serves as the Vision Council of America's channel for public education; publishes brochures that inform the public about the importance of vision care and annual eye examinations.

Blind Children's Center
4120 Marathon Street
Los Angeles, CA 90029
(213) 664-2153
800-222-3567 in California
800-222-3566 in United States
(213) 665-3828 fax

Provides information about toys, adaptive devices, educational materials, resources for people who are visually impaired, and the impact of visual impairment on early childhood development. Makes referrals to early intervention programs, social service agencies, advocacy groups, and self-help organizations. Produces publications for sale.

Blind Children's Fund
2875 Northwind Drive, Suite 211
East Lansing, MI 48823-5040
(517) 333-1725
(517) 333-1730 fax

Principal publication: *VIP Newsletter*, quarterly

Develops activities and programs pertaining to the growth, development, education, and welfare of infant and preschool children who are blind or visually impaired or have multiple disabilities. Disseminates information and materials. Formerly the International Institute for Visually Impaired, 0-7, Inc.

Blinded American Veterans Foundation
P.O. Box 65900
Washington, DC 20035
(202) 462-4430
800-284-2283

Principal publication: *Raising Cane*, quarterly

Offers employment networking and rehabilitation counseling for veterans who are blind and supports Department of Veterans Affairs blind rehabilitation programs.

Blinded Veterans Association
477 H Street NW
Washington, DC 20001-2694
(202) 371-8880
800-669-7079
(202) 371-8258 fax

Principal publication: *BVA Bulletin*, bimonthly

A membership organization for veterans blinded during or after their military service. The Field Service Program counsels blinded veterans and their families and assists them in obtaining benefits from the Veterans Administration. Offers scholarships to spouses and dependents of blinded veterans.

Council of Citizens with Low Vision International
5707 Brockton Drive, No. 302
Indianapolis, IN 46220-5481
(317) 254-1332
800-733-2258
(317) 251-6588 fax
patprice@aol.com e-mail

Principal publication: *CCLV Newsletter*, quarterly

Affiliated with American Council of the Blind. Keeps abreast of developments benefiting persons with low vision and promotes research aimed at improving their lives. Educates the public and professionals about the capabilities of persons who have some useful residual vision, with the recognition that their needs for assistance differ from those of people who are blind. Supports the development of professional training programs to establish and expand low-vision services throughout the country.

Glaucoma Research Foundation
490 Post Street, Suite 830
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 986-3162
800-826-6693

Principal publication: *Gleams*, quarterly

Committed to protecting the sight of people with glaucoma through medical research and patient education. Has publications on glaucoma that are available at no cost to all interested persons who write or telephone the foundation.

International Association of Lions Clubs
(Lions Clubs International)
300 22nd Street
Oak Brook, IL 60521-8842
(708) 571-5466
(708) 571-8890 fax

Principal publication: *Lion*, 10 issues/year

More than 41,000 clubs in 180 countries initiate service projects in their own communities in such areas as sight conservation and diabetes education. Provides free professional glaucoma screenings, free eye care, eyeglasses, braille writers, large-print texts, white canes, and guide dogs. Establishes and supports eye banks, eye clinics, and eye research centers worldwide.

Library of Congress
National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
Washington, DC 20542
(202) 707-5100
(202) 707-0744 TDD
(202) 707-0712 fax
nls@.loc.gov e-mail
To access NLS information on the Internet: gopher://marvel.loc.gov or http://lcweb.loc.gov/nls/nls.html

Principal publications: *Address List: Regional and Subregional Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped*, 2/year
Facts: Books for Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals, annual
Facts: Music for Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals, annual
News, quarterly

Administers a free national library program of braille and recorded books and magazines for persons who are visually impaired and physically disabled. Reading materials and playback machines are distributed through cooperating regional and subregional (local) libraries to eligible borrowers. Music materials are loaned directly from the Music Section of NLS. The music collection consists of scores in braille and large print; magazines and books

about music and musicians in braille, large-print, and recorded format; and instruction for voice and for instruments in braille and recorded format.

Lighthouse National Center for Vision and Aging
111 East 59th Street
New York, NY 10022
(212) 821-9200
(212) 821-9713 TDD
800-334-5497
(212) 821-9705 fax

Principal publication: *Aging and Vision News*, 3/year

Serves as a clearinghouse for information on vision and aging and on hearing impairment and aging. Offers educational materials for consumers and professionals. Conducts research and demonstration projects and disseminates findings. Promotes the improvement of service delivery to sensory-impaired older people.

Lighthouse National Center for Vision and Child Development
111 East 59th Street
New York, NY 10022
(212) 821-9200
(212) 821-9713 TDD
800-334-5497
(212) 821-9705 fax

Principal publication: *EnVision*, 3/year

Provides for the needs of children who are visually impaired and their families through professional training, technical assistance, and research. Works directly with schools, day care centers, and health and human services organizations to facilitate early identification of functional visual problems in children and to design strategies that enhance development. Conducts empirical studies and offers educational materials.

Macular Degeneration Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 686
Palm Beach, FL 33480-0686
(407) 820-9215
(407) 820-9341 fax

Principal publication: *The Magnifier*, 2/year

Enhances public awareness about low vision due to macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, or other vitro-retinal conditions.

Macular Degeneration International
2968 West Ina Road, #106
Tucson, AZ 85741
(520) 797-2525
800-393-7634
(520) 797-8018 fax

Principal publication: *Newsletter*, 2/year

Provides educational and support programs to help persons with juvenile or age-related macular degeneration effectively cope with their vision-related problems. Fosters scientific research.

National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Impaired
15 East 40th Street, Suite 1004
New York, NY 10016
(212) 683-5068
(212) 683-4475 fax

Develops standards and administers a voluntary system of accreditation for local, state, and national agencies providing direct services to persons who are blind and visually impaired. Publishes self-study and evaluation guides.

National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc.
P.O. Box 317
Watertown, MA 02272-0317
800-562-6265
(617) 972-7444 fax

Principal publication: *Awareness*, quarterly

Addresses the needs of parents and families of children who are visually impaired, provides information about care, treatment, and quality services. Promotes public understanding of the needs and rights of children with visual impairments.

National Association for Visually Handicapped
22 West 21st Street, 6th Floor
New York, NY 10010
(212) 889-3141
(212) 727-2931 fax

3201 Balboa Street
San Francisco, CA 94121
(415) 221-3201

Principal publications: *In Focus*, 2/year (for youth)
Seeing Clearly, 2/year (for adults)

Acts as a clearinghouse for information on services for individuals who have low vision and advocates to protect their civil rights. Offers counseling to persons with low vision, to families with members who are visually impaired, and to professionals who work with them. Offers publications and maintains a large-print loan library in San Francisco.

National Association of Radio Reading Services
c/o Bill Pasco, President
2100 Wharton Street, Suite 140
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
(412) 488-3944

Principal publications: *Directory of Radio Reading Services*, annual
HEARSAY, quarterly

Supports the establishment and maintenance of radio reading service for individuals who cannot read conventional print because of a visual, physical, or learning disability. Promotes sharing of programming and other information that will mutually benefit member radio reading services.

National Braille Association, Inc.
Three Townline Circle
Rochester, NY 14623-2513
(716) 427-8260
(716) 427-0263 fax

Principal publication: *NBA Bulletin*, quarterly

Assists transcribers and narrators in developing and improving skills and techniques required to produce reading materials for individuals who are print handicapped. Conducts workshops and consultations and publishes instructional material and manuals for transcribers and narrators. Provides transcription service for, and maintains a depository of, braille textbooks, standard technical tables, music, and career and general interest materials. Offers print and recorded catalogs of the braille collection.

National Braille Press
88 St. Stephen Street
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 266-6160
(617) 437-0456 fax

Principal publication: *National Braille Press Release*, 2/year

Provides braille transcription and pressing services. Embosses braille on card games, alphabet cards, business cards, and brass plaques. Offers a Jiffy-Braille program for low-cost braille transcription of job-related documents. Sponsors a Children's Braille Book Club. Makes available several titles on computer disk.

National Council of Private Agencies for the Blind and Visually Impaired
16625 Grand River Avenue
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 272-3900

Members are the chief executive officers of private, nonprofit organizations that serve individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

National Diabetes Information Clearinghouse (NDIC)
One Information Way
Bethesda, MD 20892-3560
(301) 654-3327

Principal publication: *Diabetes Dateline*, 4/year

Responds to requests for information about diabetes and its complications and distributes information to health professionals, people with diabetes and their families, and the general public. Publications include information packets, NDIC fact sheets, The Diabetes Dictionary, and Directory of Diabetes Organizations, some in Spanish.

National Eye Care Project
The Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology
P.O. Box 429098
San Francisco, CA 94142-9098
800-222-3937

A public service program delivered by volunteer ophthalmologists who provide medical and surgical eye care to the nation's elderly, particularly those who are disadvantaged. Treatment may be provided at no cost. Eyeglasses, contact lenses, prescription drugs, and hospital services are not covered.

National Eye Institute
Information Office
National Institutes of Health
Building 31, Room 6A32
Bethesda, MD 20892
(301) 496-5248
800-869-2020 to order publications

Conducts and supports research on the eye and visual system and on the causes, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of visual disorders. Promotes the application of research findings to clinical practice and heightens public awareness of vision problems. Publishes fact sheets, technical reports, educational brochures, and information packages.

National Federation of the Blind
1800 Johnson Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
(410) 659-9314
800-638-7518 Job Opportunities for the Blind
(410) 685-5653 fax
(410) 752-5011 electronic bulletin-board service
http://www.nfb.org Internet

Principal publications: *Braille Monitor*, monthly
Future Reflections, quarterly
Voice of the Diabetic, quarterly

Seeks the complete integration of persons who are blind into society on a basis of equality. Monitors state and federal laws and regulations affecting people with visual impairments. Informs members of services available to them and of their rights under the law. Provides information to entities covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act to make print materials available in formats accessible to individuals who are visually impaired. Maintains the International Braille and Technology Center for the Blind. Operates the Job Opportunities for the Blind Program (JOB) in partnership with the U.S. Department of Labor to offer employers free job listings and to help applicants who are blind obtain employment. Sells publications and assistive devices through its Materials Center. Divisions include: Diabetics, National Association of Blind Educators, National Association of Blind Lawyers, National Association to Promote the Use of Braille, Parents of Blind

Children, Public Employees, Students, and Writers.

National Industries for the Blind
Corporate Headquarters:
1901 North Beauregard Street, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22311-1727
(703) 998-0770
(703) 998-8268 fax

Administrative Office:
524 Hamburg Turnpike, CN969
Wayne, NJ 07474-0969
(201) 595-9200
(201) 595-9122 fax

Principal publication: *Opportunity*, quarterly

Enhances the opportunities for economic and personal independence of persons who are blind and deaf-blind by creating, sustaining, and improving employment. Allocates federal government contracts under the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act, develops business in commercial markets, and offers technical services to its associated industries. Administered by the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, whose members include representatives from various federal agencies and several private citizens.

National Marfan Foundation
382 Main Street
Port Washington, NY 11050
(516) 883-8712
800-862-7326
(516) 883-8712 fax

Principal publication: *Connective Issues*, quarterly

Provides information about Marfan syndrome to patients, family members, and physicians; acts as a support network; and fosters research.

National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation
1530 Locust Street, #29
Philadelphia, PA 19102-4415
(215) 545-2322
800-473-2310

Principal publication: *NOAH News*, 2/year

Offers information and support to individuals with albinism and hypopigmentation and their families and promotes public and professional education about these conditions. Encourages research on the cause and treatment of these metabolic disorders. Has local chapters and sponsors national and regional conferences.

National Retinitis Pigmentosa Foundation, Inc.
d/b/a The Foundation Fighting Blindness
1401 Mt. Royal Avenue, Fourth Floor
Baltimore, MD 21217-4245
(410) 225-9400
(410) 225-9409 TDD
800-683-5555
800-683-5551 TDD
(410) 225-3936 fax

Principal publication: *Fighting Blindness News*, 2/year

Seeks a cure for retinitis pigmentosa, Usher syndrome, macular degeneration, and allied retinal diseases. Facilitates self-help support networks for individuals with Usher syndrome, Laurence-Moon Bardet-Biedl syndrome, and Stargardt disease. The Young Adult Network is for individuals ages 16-35 with an inherited retinal degeneration.

New Eyes for the Needy, Inc.
549 Millburn Avenue
P.O. Box 332
Short Hills, NJ 07078
(201) 376-4903

Provides new prescription eyeglasses for individuals in the United States to whom no other funds are available. Tests, grades, and distributes reusable plastic-framed glasses to overseas missions and hospital clinics upon request.

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities
1331 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20004-1107
(202) 376-6200
(202) 376-6205 TDD
(202) 376-6859 fax

An independent federal agency that facilitates the communication, coordination, and promotion of public and private efforts to enhance the employment of people with physical or mental disabilities. Works with governor's committees in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Guam and with more than six hundred mayor's committees. Has available a variety of free publications and posters on the recruitment and hiring of people with disabilities. Sponsors National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Prevent Blindness America
500 East Remington Road
Schaumburg, IL 60173
(708) 843-2020
800-331-2020
(708) 843-8458 fax

Principal publication: *Prevent Blindness News*, quarterly

Works to prevent blindness through information and referral services, public and professional education, and research. Compiles *Vision Problems in the U.S.: A Report on Blindness and Vision Impairment in Adults Age 40 and Older*. Community service projects include promotion and support of local glaucoma screening programs, preschool vision testing, and sight-saving

programs directed toward eye safety in sports, industry, and the home. Sells fact sheets, handbooks, posters, and audiovisual materials on eye health and eye safety.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
20 Roszel Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 452-0606
800-221-4792
(609) 987-8116 fax
telnet://r2d2.jvnc.net:4445 Internet

Principal publication: *Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic Impact*, quarterly

Lends recorded educational and professional books at all academic levels from late elementary through graduate school and beyond. Services are available to persons with a verified visual, physical, or specific learning disability that substantially limits reading. A registration fee of $37.50 is required of all applicants. Also sells electronic books, called E-Text, on computer disk.

Resources for Rehabilitation
33 Bedford Street, Suite 19A
Lexington, MA 02173
(617) 862-6455
(617) 861-7517 fax

Conducts training programs to educate the public and professionals about the needs of people with vision loss and resources available to meet those needs. Produces large-print publications about low vision and vision loss.

Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Foundation
Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center
2232 Webster Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 561-1619
(415) 561-1610 fax

Principal publication: *Smith-Kettlewell Technical File*, quarterly

Houses one of the sixteen rehabilitation engineering centers (RECs) that are funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. The REC for the Development and Evaluation of Sensory Aids for Blind, Visually Impaired, and Deaf-Blind Individuals develops sensory aids to assist in vocational and educational rehabilitation. Also provides custom-made sensory aids in a fee-for-service program and participates in seminars to increase awareness of sensory aids technology.

Telephone Pioneers of America
930 Fifteenth Street, 12th Floor
P.O. Box 13888
Denver, CO 80201-3888
(303) 571-9256/50

Principal publication: *Telephone Pioneer*, quarterly

Maintains a directory of senior and retired telephone employees who repair and service record players and cassette machines of the talking-books program of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Pioneers may visit homes of new readers to demonstrate use of the equipment and may help library staffs inspect returned talking books for damage before the books are loaned to other readers.

United States Eye Injury Registry
P.O. Box 55565
Birmingham, AL 35255
(205) 933-0064
(205) 933-2602 fax

A federation of thirty-nine state eye injury registries sponsored by state societies. Seeks to eliminate the needless loss of sight caused by eye injury by developing strategies of prevention, management, and rehabilitation through education and research.

VISION Foundation, Inc.
818 Mt. Auburn Street
Watertown, MA 02172
(617) 926-4232
(617) 926-0289 voice/TDD
800-852-3029 in Massachusetts
(617) 926-1412 fax

Principal publication: *Vision Resource Update*, bimonthly

Self-help organization serving persons who are newly blind, have low vision, or have a progressive eye disease. Offers support groups, an information and referral center, a buddy telephone system, a career mentor program, special programs for older people, and materials in large print and on cassette.

International Organizations

Christoffel-Blindenmission
(Christian Blind Mission International)
Nibelungenstrasse 124
D-64625 Bensheim
GERMANY
49-6251-1310
49-6251-131165 fax

National director in the United States:
Mr. Alan Harkey
P.O. Box 19000
450 East Park Avenue
Greenville, SC 29601
(803) 239-0065
(803) 239-0069 fax

A Christian charitable service organization that operates worldwide to prevent and treat blindness, to offer vocational training and social integration of people with visual or physical disabilities, and to support primary health care programs.

Helen Keller International
90 Washington Street
New York, NY 10006
(212) 943-0890
(212) 943-1220 fax

Assists governments and voluntary agencies in developing countries to establish services for the prevention of blindness, the restoration of sight, and the rehabilitation of those persons whose vision cannot be restored. Offers technical assistance and training of community-level health care providers. Has official relations with the World Health Organization.

International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness
Mr. Alan Johns, Secretary-General
c/o SightSavers
P.O. Box 191
Haywards Heath
West Sussex RH16 4YF
ENGLAND
444 412 424
444 415 866 fax

Principal publication: *IAPB News*, 2/year

Coordinates international research into the causes of vision impairment or blindness, promotes measures to eliminate such causes, and disseminates information worldwide on eye care and prevention of blindness. Cooperates with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and other international agencies.

International Eye Foundation
7801 Norfolk Avenue
Suite 200
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 986-1830
(301) 986-1876 fax

Principal publication: *Eye to Eye*, annual

Aids less-developed countries in achieving self-sufficiency in eye health care through clinical, surgical, and preventive services; equipment, supplies, and medications; training and public education; technical assistance; and operational research.

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Headquarters
Section of Libraries for the Blind
P.O. Box 95312
2509 CH The Hague
NETHERLANDS
31(70)3140884
31(70)3834827
IFLA.HQ@IFLA.NL e-mail
http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ifla/general/slb.htm Internet

Principal publication: *Newsletter*, irregular

Promotes national and international cooperation in the field of library services for readers who are blind or visually impaired and encourages research and development in all aspects of this service. Acts as a forum for the discussion of topics such as standardization, braille production, and the impact of new technology on library services to persons with visual impairment.

Sight Savers International
Grosvenor Hall
Bolnore Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex RH16 4BX
ENGLAND
444 412 424
444 415 866 fax

Principal publication: *Horizons*

Also known as the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind. United Kingdom's oldest charity working to prevent and cure blindness and to provide services to people who are blind in the developing world. Plans national and regional eye care programs, builds and supports eye care units, develops outreach services for rural areas, and promotes the integration and education of children with visual impairment in standard schools.

World Blind Union
c/o O.N.C.E.
c/La Coruña, 18
28020 Madrid
SPAIN
34-1 571 36 85

Principal publication: *World Blind*, quarterly

An international nongovernmental coalition composed of representatives from various associations of blind people and from agencies providing services to them. The members are grouped into seven geographical unions: Africa, Asia, Europe, East Asia/Pacific, Latin America, Middle East, and North America/Caribbean. Works for the prevention of blindness, promotes the well-being of people who are blind and visually impaired, and serves as an international forum for the exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of blindness.

Publications That List Agencies, Services, and Resources

AFB directory of services for blind and visually impaired persons in the United States. 24th ed. New York: American Foundation for the Blind, 1993. 531p. (c/o American Book Center, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Building No. 3, Brooklyn, NY 11205).

APH catalog of accessible books for people who are visually impaired, 1994-1995. Louisville, KY: American Printing House for the Blind, 1994. 486p. (1839 Frankfort Avenue, P.O. Box 6085 40206-0085).

The complete directory of large-print books and serials 1995. New Providence, NJ: R.R. Bowker, 1995. 344p.

Cylke, Frank Kurt, and Judith M. Dixon, managing eds. International directory of tactile map collections. The Hague: Section of Libraries for the Blind, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and Washington: National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, 1985. 19p.

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King, Sue, ed. Agencies for blind and partially sighted people: an international guide. London, England: Technical Research Section, Royal National Institute for the Blind, 1995. 263p. (224 Great Portland Street W1N 6AA).

King, Sue, ed. A guide to UK organizations for visually disabled people. 3d ed. London, England: Technical Research Section, Royal National Institute for the Blind, 1992. 343p.

Library of Congress. National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Reference Section. Assistive devices for reading. Compiled by Carol Strauss. Washington: 1993. 75p. (Reference circular 93-02). Free.

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Library of Congress. National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Reference Section. Reading materials in large print. Compiled by Mary Barber. Washington: 1996. Free.

Library of Congress. National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Volunteers who produce books: braille, tape, large print. Compiled by Freddie Peaco. Washington: 1995. Free.

Living with low vision: a resource guide for people with sight loss. Lexington, MA: Resources for Rehabilitation, 1993. 271p. $35. (33 Bedford Street, Suite 19A 02173).

Low vision questions and answers: definitions, devices, services. New York: American Foundation for the Blind, 1987. 21p. Sold in bulk quantities only; call for price.

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VISION resource list. 15th ed. Watertown, MA: VISION Foundation, Inc., 1995. 19p. Free.

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This listing of braille usage is arranged by country and includes the name of the organizations in each country that responded to the survey.

State Agencies That Administer Rehabilitation Services and Special Education

Direct services provided through state-level departments of rehabilitation (listed first) may include diagnosis and evaluation of eye health, counseling and social work services, pre-vocational evaluation and vocational training and placement, job retention and job retraining, and low-vision services and assistive devices. These agencies also administer the vending facilities programs in each state. Direct services provided through state-level special education departments include consultation with and referral to local school districts and development of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

Alabama

Division of Rehabilitation Services
Blind and Deaf Services
2129 East South Boulevard
P.O. Box 11586
Montgomery, AL 36111-0586
(205) 281-8780
(205) 281-1973 fax

Special Education Services
Alabama Department of Education
P.O. Box 302101
Montgomery, AL 36130-2101
(334) 242-8114
(334) 242-9192 fax

Alaska

Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation
801 West Tenth Street, Suite 200
Juneau, AK 99801-1894
(907) 465-2814
(907) 465-2856 fax

Special Education Service Agency
Blind/Vision Impairment
Program
2217 East Tudor Road, Suite #1
Anchorage, AK 99507
(907) 562-7372

American Samoa

Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation Department of
Human Resources
American Samoa Government Mail
Pago Pago, AS 96799
(684) 633-2336
(684) 633-2392 fax

Arizona

Services for the Blind
1789 West Jefferson Street
Second Floor NW, 930-A
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 542-3332
(602) 542-3778 fax

Arizona Department of Education
1535 West Jefferson Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 542-3084

Arkansas

Division of Services for the Blind
411 Victory Street
P.O. Box 3237
Little Rock, AR 72203
(501) 371-2587
(501) 324-9280 fax

Arkansas Department of Education
#4 Capitol Mall, Room 105-C
Little Rock, AR 72201-1071
(501) 682-4221

California

Department of Rehabilitation
Services for the Blind
830 K Street Mall, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 445-9040
(916) 323-0364 fax

California Department of Education
Special Education Division
515 L Street, Room 270
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 445-4613

Colorado

Rehabilitation Services for the Blind
12211 West Evans Avenue
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 866-2866
(303) 866-2704 fax

Colorado Department of Education
Colorado Instructional Materials
Center for the Visually
Handicapped
1015 High Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3599
(719) 578-2195

Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Vocational Rehabilitation Division
Commonwealth of Northern
Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 1521-CK
Saipan, MP 96950
(607) 234-6538

Connecticut

Board of Education and Services for
the Blind
Department of Social Services
170 Ridge Road
Wethersfield, CT 06109
(203) 249-8525, ext. 2201
(203) 278-6920 fax

Delaware

Division for the Visually Impaired
Biggs Building
Health and Social Service Campus
1901 North Dupont Highway
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 577-4731

Division for the Visually Impaired
State of Delaware
305 West Eighth Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
(302) 571-3333

District of Columbia

D.C. Rehabilitation Services
Administration
Visual Impairment Section
605 G Street NW, Ninth Floor
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 727-0907
(202) 727-1707 fax

State Education Agency
Goding School
10 and F Streets NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 724-4800

Florida

Division of Blind Services
2540 Executive Center Circle West
Douglas Building, Suite 203
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(904) 488-1330
(904) 487-1804 fax

Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Student Services and
Exceptional Education
Florida Education Center, Suite 614
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400
(904) 488-1106

Georgia

Division of Rehabilitation Services
Blind and Visually Impaired
Program
Two Peachtree Street NW
23rd Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303-3166
(404) 657-3051
(404) 657-3086 fax

Georgia Academy for the Blind
2895 Vineville Avenue
Macon, GA 31204
(912) 751-6083

Guam

Department of Vocational
Rehabilitation
122 ITE, Room B201
Harmon Industrial Park
Tamuning, GU 96911
(671) 646-9468
(671) 649-7672 fax

Hawaii

Services for the Blind Branch
Rehabilitation Center for the
Visually Handicapped
Department of Social Services

1901 Bachelot Street
Honolulu, HI 96817
(808) 586-5266
(808) 586-5288 fax

Hawaii Department of Education
Special Education
Honolulu District Office
4697 Kilaua Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816
(808) 737-5694

Idaho

Commission for the Blind
and Visually Impaired
341 West Washington Street
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83702-0012
(208) 334-3220
(208) 334-2963 fax

Special Education
Idaho State Department of
Education
P.O. Box 0027
Boise, ID 83720-0027
(208) 334-3940

Illinois

Department of Rehabilitation
Services
Bureau of Blind Services
623 East Washington Street
P.O. Box 19429
Springfield, IL 62794-9429
(217) 785-3887
(217) 524-1235 fax

Services for the Visually Impaired
3031 Stanton Street
Springfield, IL 62703-4316
(217) 525-3300

Indiana

Blind and Visually Impaired
Services
Disability Aging Rehabilitative
Services
402 West Washington Street
Room W453
P.O. Box 7083
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7083
(317) 232-1433
(317) 232-1240 fax

Indiana Educational Resource
Center
7725 North College Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46240
(317) 232-0587

Iowa

Department for the Blind
524 Fourth Street
Des Moines, IA 50309-2364
(515) 281-1334
(514) 281-1263 fax
(515) 281-1355 TTY

Bureau of Special Education
Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146
(515) 281-3176

Kansas

Division of Services for the Blind
Biddle Building, Second Floor
2700 West Sixth Street
Topeka, KS 66606
(913) 296-4454
(913) 296-0511

Kansas State Board of Education
120 East Tenth Street
Topeka, KS 66612
(913) 296-0946

Kentucky

Department for the Blind
27 Versailles Road
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 573-4754
(502) 573-3976 fax

Kentucky Instructional Materials
Resource Center
1867 Frankfort
Louisville, KY 40206
(502) 897-1583

Louisiana

Division of Rehabilitation Services
Department of Social Services
8225 Florida Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70806-4834
(504) 925-4131
(504) 925-4184 fax

Louisiana Learning Resources
System
Louisiana State Department of
Education
2758-C Brightside Lane
Baton Rouge, LA 70820
(504) 765-2417

Maine

Division for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
35 Anthony Avenue, Station 150
Augusta, ME 04333-0150
(207) 624-5323
(207) 624-5361

Division of Special Education
Station 23
Augusta, ME 04333-0023
(207) 289-5950

Maryland

Division of Rehabilitation Services
Services for the Blind and Visually
Impaired
2301 Argonne Drive
Baltimore, MD 21218-1696
(410) 554-2381
(410) 554-3299 fax

Division of Special Education
Maryland State Department of
Education
200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 767-0238

Massachusetts

Commission for the Blind
88 Kingston Street
Boston, MA 02111-2227
(617) 727-5550, ext. 4503
(617) 727-5960

Vision Resources Library
Massachusetts Department of Education
Three Randolph Street, Baylie's Lower
Canton, MA 02021
(617) 575-1840
800-827-7772
(617) 575-9601 fax

Michigan

Commission for the Blind
Department of Labor
P.O. Box 30015
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-2062
(517) 335-5140

Michigan Department of Education
Office of Special Education Services
P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-9433

Minnesota

Services for the Blind and Visually Handicapped
2200 University Avenue West, Suite 240
St. Paul, MN 55114-1840
(612) 642-0508
(612) 649-5927 fax

Office of Special Education
Minnesota Department of Education
812 Capitol Square Building
550 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
(612) 296-4163

Mississippi

Department of Rehabilitation Services
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind
P.O. Box 22806
Jackson, MS 3925-2806
(601) 936-0320
(601) 936-0297 fax

State Department of Education
Office of Special Education
P.O. Box 771
Jackson, MS 39205-0771
(601) 359-3498

Missouri

Rehabilitation Services for the Blind
Division of Family Services
619 East Capitol Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101
(314) 751-4249
(314) 751-4984 fax

Center for Innovations in Special Education
Parkade Center, Suite 152
601 Business Loop 70 West
Columbia, MO 65211
(314) 884-7275

Montana

Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
Rehabilitation/Visual Services Division
111 Sanders, P.O. Box 4210
Helena, MT 59604
(406) 444-2590
(406) 444-1970 fax

Office of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
(406) 444-4426

Nebraska

Services for the Visually Impaired
4600 Valley Road
Lincoln, NE 68510-4844
(402) 471-2891
(402) 483-4184 fax

Nebraska Diagnostic Resource Center
1910 Meridian Avenue
Cozad, NE 69130
(308) 784-4525
(308) 784-4529 fax

Nevada

Bureau of Services to the Blind
505 East King, Room 503
Carson City, NV 89710
(702) 687-4444
(702) 687-5980 fax

Special Education
Nevada Department of Education
400 West King Street
Carson City, NV 89710
(702) 687-3140
(702) 687-6598 fax

New Hampshire

Bureau of Blind Services
JB Building
78 Regional Drive
Concord, NH 03301
(603) 271-3537

New Hampshire Department of Education
State Office Park South
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301
(603) 271-3741
(603) 271-3494

New Jersey

Commission for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
153 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor
P.O. Box 47017
Newark, NJ 07101
(201) 648-2324
(201) 648-7364

Office of Special Education
Programs
New Jersey Department of
Education
CN 500
Trenton, NJ 08625
(609) 292-0147

New Mexico

Commission for the Blind
Pera Building, Room 553
Santa Fe, NM 87503
(505) 827-4479
(505) 827-4475 fax

New Mexico School for the
Visually Handicapped
1900 North White Sands Boulevard
Alamogordo, NM 88310
(505) 437-3505

New York

Commission for the Blind and
Visually Handicapped
Department of Social Services
One Commerce Plaza
99 Washington Avenue
Seventh Floor
Albany, NY 12210
(518) 473-1801
(518) 486-5819 fax

New York State Education
Department
Office for Special Education
Services
Room 1624 OCP
Albany, NY 12234
(518) 486-7462
(518) 473-5387 fax

North Carolina

Division of Services for the Blind
309 Ashe Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27606
(919) 733-9822
(919) 733-9769 fax

Exceptional Children Support Team
301 North Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
(919) 715-1565

North Dakota

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Department of Human Services
Administrative Office
400 East Broadway, Suite 303
Bismarck, ND 58501-4038
(701) 224-3999
(701) 224-3976 fax

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
600 East Boulevard Avenue
State Capitol, Tenth Floor
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440
(701) 328-2277

Ohio

Rehabilitation Services Commission
Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired
400 East Campus View Boulevard
Columbus, OH 43235-4604
(614) 438-1255
(614) 438-1257 fax

Ohio Division of Special Education
933 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085-4087
(614) 466-2650

Oklahoma

Visual Services
P.O. Box 25352
Oklahoma City, OK 73125
(405) 424-6006, ext. 2662
(405) 427-3027 fax

Educational Services for the Visually Impaired
Oklahoma State Department of Education
Special Education Section
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599
(405) 521-3351

Oregon

Commission for the Blind
535 SE 12th Avenue
Portland, OR 97214
(503) 731-3221
(503) 731-3230 fax

Oregon Textbook and Media Center for the Visually Impaired
531 Southeast 14th Avenue
Portland, OR 97214
(503) 280-5840, ext. 421

Pennsylvania

Blindness and Visual Services
Department of Public Welfare
Bertolino Building, First Floor
1404 North Seventh Street
P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2675
(717) 787-6176
(717) 772-2093 fax

Bureau of Special Education
Department of Education
333 Market Street, Seventh Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333
(717) 783-2311

Puerto Rico

Vocational Rehabilitation Program
Department of Social Services
P.O. Box 1118
Hato Rey, PR 00919
(809) 725-1792

Puerto Rico Department of Education
P.O. Box 190759
San Juan, PR 00919-0759
(809) 766-2784

Rhode Island

Office of Rehabilitation Services
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
275 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903-3430
(401) 277-2300, ext. 100
(401) 277-1328 fax

Rhode Island Department of Education
Roger Williams Building
22 Hayes Street, Room 209
Providence, RI 02908
(401) 277-4600, ext. 2310

South Carolina

Commission for the Blind
1430 Confederate Avenue
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 734-7522
(803) 734-7885 fax

South Carolina Department of Education
808 Rutledge Building
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 734-8806

South Dakota

Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired
East Highway 34
c/o 500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
(605) 773-4644
(605) 773-5483 fax

Office of Special Education
700 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 773-3678

Tennessee

Services for the Blind
400 Deaderick Street
Eleventh Floor
Nashville, TN 37248-6200
(615) 741-2919
(615) 741-4165

Division of Special Education
Eighth Floor Gateway Plaza
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0380
(615) 741-2851
(615) 532-9412 fax

Texas

Commission for the Blind
P.O. Box 12866
Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 459-2600
(512) 459-2685 fax

Special Education Funding and Compliance
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701-1494
(512) 463-9362

Utah

Division of Services for the Visually Handicapped
309 East 100 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
(801) 538-9393
800-284-1823
(801) 538-0437 fax

At Risk and Special-Education Services
Utah State Office of Education
Special Education Section
250 East Fifth South
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
(801) 538-7706
(801) 538-7991 fax

Vermont

Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05676
(802) 241-2211
(802) 244-8103

Family and Educational Support Team
Vermont Department of Education
State Office Building
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501
(802) 828-3141

Virgin Islands

Division of Disabilities and Rehabilitation Services
Department of Human Services
Knud Hansen Complex
Building A
1303 Hospital Ground
St. Thomas, VI 00802
(809) 774-0930, ext. 4190

Virginia

Department for the Visually Handicapped
397 Azalea Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227-3697
(804) 371-3145
(804) 371-3157 fax

Instructional Materials Resource Center
395 Azalea Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227
(804) 371-3661
800-552-7015
(804) 371-3508 fax

Washington

Department of Services for the Blind 521 East Legion Way
Mail Stop FD-11
Olympia, WA 98504-1422
(206) 586-1224
(206) 586-7627 fax

Washington Instructional Materials Center for Visually Impaired
10903 Gravelly Lake Drive, Southwest
Tacoma, WA 98499
(206) 589-7404

OSPI Special Services
Old Capitol Building
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 753-6733
(360) 586-0126 (TDD)

West Virginia

Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
State Capitol
Charleston, WV 25305-0890
(304) 766-4799
(304) 766-4671 fax

West Virginia Instructional Resource Center for the Visually Handicapped
West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind
301 East Main Street
Romney, WV 26757
(304) 822-4891

Office of Special Education Programs and Assurances
West Virginia Department of Education
Capitol Complex
Building 6, Room B-304
Charleston, WV 25305
(304) 558-2696 (V/TDD)

Wisconsin

Bureau for Sensory Disabilities
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
One West Wilson Street
Eighth Floor
P.O. Box 7852
Madison, WI 53707-7852
(608) 266-0437
(608) 267-3657 fax

Department of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 7841
Madison, WI 53707
(608) 266-3522
800-441-4563
(608) 267-3746 fax

Wyoming

Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation 1100 Herschler
Building
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-7385
(307) 777-5939 fax

Wyoming Department of Education
Visually Handicapped Services
144 Hathaway Building
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-7274

Revised by
Carol Strauss
Reference Section
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